CINCAD SPACE SHUTTLE SUPPORT

AFTER-ACTION REPORT

ORBITAL FLIGHT TEST - 1

MAY 1981

Lt Col Robert B. Giffen Space Operations Directorate Cheyenne Kountain Complex, CO

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ABSTRACT

This report documents the internal deficiencies encountered in providing ADCOM support to NASA for the first Orbital Flight Test. Aross covered include training, exercises, softwere support, sensor support, comm support, future support responsibilities, and negotiations for OFT-2 support. Specific ections with suggested OPRs are provided as an aid in providing support for future Shuttle flights. The report concludes that the ADCOM support provided for OFT-1 met or exceeded NASA requirements.

INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND

1. In December 1980, ADCOM/J-3 completed negotiations with NASA to provide support for the first flight of the Space Transportation System, Orbital Plight Test-1 (OFT-1). A formal requirements letter was aigned and at that time responsibility for supporting OFT-1 was passed to ADCOM/J-3. ADCOM/J-3X was responsible for publishing a CINCAO OPLAN 90 days prior to the first flight and ADCOM/J-3Y was responsible for providing support to include publication of a detailed CINCAO Implementation Plan prior to the first flight.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to formally document the ADCOM support provided for OFT-1 and to identify actions required prior to the next flight, OFT-2.

DESCRIPTION

3. ADCOM support to OFT-1 is described in general terms in CINCAD Space Shuttle Support OFLAN 341D-81, Mar 1981 (OFLAN). A detailed description of ADCOM support to include specific crew actions is contained in CINCAD Space Shuttle Support Implementation Plan 341D-81, Feb 1981 (IPLAN).

SCOPE

4. The scope of this report covers the initial negotiations of the requirements with NASA, the publication of the OPLAN and the IPLAN, the support provided during OFT-1 from 12 to 14 Apr 81, and the subsequent support provided for the post-flight analysis.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

GENERAL.

5. The development and execution of ADCOM support for OFT-1 was an evolutionary and learning process which will be discussed in detail in the following sections. It is important to remember that the primary purpose of this report is to identify actions and procedures to be taken to prepare for OFT-2, not, through hindsight, to identify shortcomings in the development of the support provided for OFT-1.

The fundamental concept of operations was to use operational SPACOC crews to provide support to MASA rather than using a "tiger team" concept. Without exception, from NASA's viewpoint, the ADCOM support provided throughout the 54% hour flight of the Columbia by the SPACOC grews was flawless.

OPERATIONS PLAN (OPLAN)

6. The support required for OFT-1 consisted of providing timely Computation of Miss Between Orbits (COMMO), Tracking and Impact Prediction (TIP) of the External Tank (ET) and the Orbiter Vehicle (OV), and backup Early Orbit Octermination (ECOET). The OPLAN was satisfactory in describing these actions and assigning responsibilities to insure proper preparation to provide this support. Since the mission profile for OFT-2 will be very similar to that of OFT-1, no changes to the OPLAN are anticipated. There was, however, difficulty encountered in the timely publication of the OPLAN. (The OPLAN was distributed approximately one week prior to OFT-1.) Recommend that any future changes to the OPLAN be published and distributed as seen as possible prior to the affected flight.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (IPLAN)

7. The IPLAN was published and distributed approximately 60 days prior to OFT-1. It contained a detailed chronological sequence of events and erew actions, a list of responsibilities by agency and crew position, and a series of contingency checklists. The format of the IPLAN was satisfactory and should be followed for future flights. A new IPLAN should be published following a similar format as soon as the mission profile for OFT-2 is firm and the OFT-2 requirements have been negotiated. This plan should then be distributed to appropriate agencies within ADCDM, to all sensors involved, to HQ SAC, to DDMS, to NASA Centers, and one copy to each SPADOC crew member. Since this plan affects only ADCOM support, it is necessary to coordinate the plan with agencies only within ADCOM. Specifically, the IPLAN should be written by J-3Y, coordinated with J-5D, J-5C, J-5Y, J-36, J-3F, J-3Z, J-3X, J-3J, J-3T, J-3V and J-31A through E, and approved by J-31 for publication. A scparate IPLAN will be published for each of the Orbital Flight Tosts (OFT-1 through OFT-S) and then a generic form of this plan will be published as an annex to the OPLAN. For subsequent operational flights of the Space Transportation System (STS), this generic implementation plan will serve as a guide to ADCOM crews.

TRAINING

9. Prior to OFT-1 all crews participated in ADCON simulated OFT-1 mission exercises. There were two OFT-1 mission scenarios developed. First, a normal mission with no contingencies and, second, a scenario with an ET overspeed contingency. Each crew participated at least once in each scenario. Additionally, ADCON was a scripted player in

two NASA-directed full-minsion mimulations. Prior to OFT-1 all crews were evaluated and cortified operationally roady. Four main areas need to be emphasized in future crew training in preparation for OFT-2

a. First, additional training is necessary in receiving data from the Johnson Space Center (JSC)...

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It was very

apparent during OFT-1 that one crew had practiced this procedure extensively and was well prepared. Other crews, however, had difficulty receiving and manipulating these data.

- b. Second, crews need practice in communicating with NASA both over the voice line and the Data Speed 40 Teletype. Extensive practice using these systems should be incorporated in crew training immediately.
- c. Third, some erew members had only a cursory knowledge of the actions required by the IPLAN. It appeared that individual crew knowledge of the OFT-1 profile and required SCC actions was a function of the leadership provided by the Space Surveillance Controller, rather than by any standards established by J-3T and J-3V. For future Shuttle support, it is vital that J-3T, J-3V, and the Command Directors set high standards of performance and insist that the crews meet those standards.
- d. Finally, it would be helpful if all erow members were given a briefing of the total support provided to MASA by all agencies. This briefing would explain the role and scope of NASA sensors, ARIS

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support, DDMS support, ESMC support, and ADCOM support. Recommend J-3T develop an overview Shuttle support briefing and includa it in all training for MM, CP, and SPADOC crew personnel.

It is important for future Shuttlo flights that personnel from J-3Y, J-3T, and J-3V work closely together to insure that the crows are trained and evaluated on the most current shuttle mission profile with the most current procedures.

EXERCISES

9. After the crew training program has been updated with the recommendations suggested in paragraph 8 above, shuttle support activities should be included in routine in-house exercises within the CP, SPADOG, MMC, and the SCC. These exercises should be conducted at least once a week. In addition, ADCOM should be a player in as many NASA mission exercises as possible.

CREW SUPPORT

10. The results of ADCON suppor: to OFT-1 validates the concept to use unaugmented crews to support shuttle operations. Although there were times during the 54% hour flight when day-staff personnel provided guidance, it was clear that the operational crews are capable of providing the necessary support. Additional training is necessary (para 8) and changes must be made to the 427M software (para 11), but there will be no reason to augment the crews as Shuttle flights become more routine. For the Orbital Flight Test phase (OFT-1 through OFT-5), however, it is advisable to augment the SPADOC crews with qualified personnel from J-3Y during critical phases of each OFT flight. Once this phase is completed and a generic implementation

plan is added to the OPLAN (pare 7), then augmentees should no longer be necessary. Development of separate crew checklists to support Shuttle flights is not recommended at this time. For the next four flights, the IPLAN will serve as a guida to crews of the sequence of events and any contingency actions. Actions listed in the IPLAN are already established as routine procedures for the crew.

SOFTWARE SUPPORT :

11. Several efficienciae were noted prior to and during OFT-1. These deficienciae were overcome by worksrounds but resulted in unnecessary delays in processing deta end e high-level of operator frustration. It became apparent during OFT-1 that ADCOM would experience difficulty in processing data end providing contingency support to any quick-reaction NASA requirements during s Shuttle enomaly. Nine PRRs and two DRs have been submitted to correct these deficiencies (see Atch A). It is imperative that these PRRs and DRs ore completed prior to OFT-2.

SENSOR SUPPORT

12. Support by the SPADATS emeore during OFT-1 was commendable. Sixteen element sets were published from SPADATS observations. Two problems, however, were identified during the flight. First, observe the NAVSPASUR for the OFT-1 (object 12399) were not proceeded by the 427M system. Second, elthough sansors were tasked to obtain only three data points on each pass, this tasking was exceeded frequently. Since NASA was concerned with potential electromagnetic interference (EMI) from SPADATS sensors, this additional tracking is of concern. J-3Z is currently working both these problems (see Atch 8). These problems should be corrected prior to OFT-2.

ASCC AND BCP SUPPORT

13. Support provided by the Alternets Space Computation Center (ASCC) at Eglin AFS and the NAVSPASUR Backup Computation Facility (ECT) at Dahlgran, VA, consisted of running in parallel operations throughout the duration of OFT-1. Both facilities provided shadow COMBO and TIP support throughout OFT-1 and forwarded the outputs from those programs to the SCC. The BCF provided primary command and control backup support and the ASCC provided primary command and control backup support of FOT OFT-1, the ECC remained fully operational and no backup support was required. No problems were encountered in the implementation of parallel operations with the ASCC and the BCF. A complete analysis of the COMBO and TIP support provided by the ASCC and the BCF is currently being conducted by J-36... A separate formal report documenting these results will be published by J-36 by 15 Jun 81. (CC) (

SATELLITE EARLY WARRING SYSTEM (SEMS) SUPPORT

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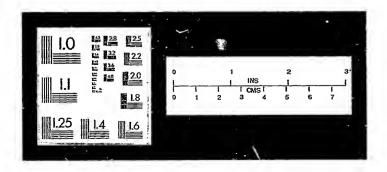
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COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT

15. Communications support consisted of the following circuits between the SCC and JSC: 55 /

The voice circuit was designed to have a monitor capability of the MASA Flight Director, Cap Cosm, and Flight Dynamics loops; however, this feature did not work. A squark box was installed over the Orbital Analyst Leader's console so that SCC personnel could monitor the voice circuit. The prisary problem with the shout down circuit was the lack of reliable response; it was easy for the NASA crew personnel to turn down the volume during peak periods and then subsequently forget to turn it back up. This action rendered the circuit effectively inoperative from the SCC and. In addition, NASA personnel were unfamiliar with the 55° and frequently were unable to transmit over this circuit. For future flights, J-IX has requested the following changes to the current cosm support:

- Change the shout down voice circuit to a ring down circuit keeping the SCC squark box.
- b. Add the JSC ring down circuit to the SST and 507 consoles in the SCC (keep the current connections to the Oak, SSC, and SVO consoles).
 - c. Install a separate, dedicated, monitor-only telephone

circuit with speaker to the Flight Director, Csp Comm. Flight Dynamics and Comm/New concols: at JEC.

SCC CROWD CONTROL

16. Just prior to Isman, the SCC door look combination was changed and a notice was preted limiting scores to personnel directly invested with Shuttle support. Since the launch occurred on a weekend, creat control was not a problem until the reentry on 14 April. The difficulty was that there was no accessible television romitor available to watch the coverage of the reentry other than in the SCC. Supervisors were reluctant to term people seesy from this historic event, even though the SCC became a little overcrowded. For future flights, recommend that TV monitors be made available in the dining hall or some other accessible location within the NCC.

MISSILE WARNING SUPPORT

17. The Missile Marning crew provided the communications link between the SCC and the SEMS sites. This arrangement was satisfactory and should continue for future flights. The reentry of the Orbiter Vehicle generated, the appropriate response from the Missile Marning natural and was handled according to routine procedures. So changes to these procedures are required for subsequent Shuttle flights.

RADAR RESTRICTIONS

- 18. Shortly prior to the OFT-1 flight, NASA imposed the following radar restrictions:
- So tracking with the Eglin phased-erray radar during launch or reentry.

- b. No tracking with 55 | Xwejelein, Milletona or Rayeteck redare.
- c. No dual-face trecking with the PAVE PAMS phased-array radars.

Since the launch end reentry ware not in Eglin's coverage and the software in PAVE PAMS procludes dual-face tracking, the only impact of this restriction was to limit b5 from providing EODET and normal SPADATS tracking (Kwajalain, Millatone and Hayetsck are not normally used in the SPADATS network). The Orbiter was catalogued as SCC Object 12399 and 16 elements were published. There ware no problems ancountered in resintening the Orbiter through sole use of SCC observations. The actual velidity and impact of the NASA-impact redar restriction is currently being worked by J-3Z (see Atch B).

DATA FLOW BETWEEN SCC AND JSC

19. With the use of the AUTODIN circuit, data such as COMBO results, were passed directly to JSC through messages generated by the 427M system. On the other hand, deta (primarily inter-range vectors) passed from JSC to the SCC were passed by voice and then menually entered into the 427M system. This form of data transmission is slow, awkward, and error-prone. NASA rejected the idea of passing deta via the bS passed it would entail at least two panual operations and physically running the data to another, distant location. Attempts should be made with NASA to automate the transmission of this deta computer-to-computer via AUTODIN. Considering the number of planned STS flights, this is the only practical long

term solution to the problem. For OFT-2, every effort should be made to expedite the flow of data from JSC to the SCC.

CONTINGENCY SUPPORT

20. The only contingency that areas during OFT-1 was not covered in the IPLAM; however, orew response was satisfactory. HARA, through OED, requested special emical support by Air Force sensors. As overseas sensor was recalled by the SCC to provide this support. Eglin was tasked to obtain at least 12 obe on the next OV pass to insure that an accurate slement set was passed to the appropriate sensors. This contingency was handled very well by the SCC crew and one day-stiff augmentse. It could have been also accomplished by the SCC crew slope.

FUTURE SUPPORT RESPONSIBILITIES

- 21. One of the problems encountered in providing support to MASA for Office was a fragmentation and a lack of definition of responsibilities during the initial phases of developing this support. The result was fragment and duplicating communications with MASA officials and other squaries. To correct this problem, J-JY, J-3% and j-5D have agreed to the following division of responsibilities for Offi-2:
- a. J-50 will be the primary OPR for OFT-2 until completion of the required planning actions. As such, Z-50 will set up the necessary meetings with JSC to negotista the requirements for OFT-2. Representatives from J-32 and J-37 will ettend this neeting. After completion of the required planning actions J-50 will be kept tightly in the loop during all phases of ADCON support for OFT-2 to ensure J-5 continuity throughout the STS program.

- b. J-3Y will become primary OPR upon completion of required planning actions and formal transfer of responsibility from J-3 to J-3. J-3Y will publish a new IPLAW, chair an OFT-2 Support Working Group, and be responsible for all direct communications and interfaces with NASA and FSD.
- J-12 will be responsible for all communications and interzers with the sensors, the ASCC, the SCF, DDMS, and ESMC at Patrick ATS.

NEGOTIATIONS FOR OFT-2 SUPPORT

- 22. During the negotiations with JSC for ADCOM support for OFT-2, particular attention should be given to the following areas:
- e. A specific, velidated used for isposed radar restrictions should be discussed and resolved as soon as possible. There is evidence that the initial restriction for OFT-1 was too conservetive. J-32 is currently working this problem.
- b. All negotiated support requirements should be validated sgainst the actual mission profile: (For OFT-1, it was questionable if BODET support could have been provided prior to EASA rev 2, even if Divarbatir had been allowed to track.)
- c. Negotietions should include discussions of epecing the data flow from JSC to the SCC, improving the voice cosm circuits, and requirements for post-mission analysis (specifically, requirements to analyse the ST reentry).

COSCLUSIONS

23. ADCCM support provided to JSC for OFT-1 methor exceeded all the requirements requested by NASA. The concept of providing the support as a routine craw function was velidated. Support for the remaining Orbital Flight Tests (EFT-2 through OFT-5) should follow the same accessions that provided for OFT-1.

RECOMMENDATIONS/ACTIONS

- 24. The following summary of recommendations and actions is provided to sid in preparation for OFT-2. Suggested OFRs are added to familiate completion of the actions. Paragraph references are made to body of the report for a more detailed discussion. Recommendations are made asquentially as they appear in the report, rather than by priority.
 - a. Changes to OPLAN should he timely (pera 6): J-3X:
 - b. Format of IPLAN should be kept (para 7): J-3Y.
- c. New IPLAN should he published for each Orbital Flight Test (page 7): J-3X.
- d. Each IPLAN should be coordinated with agencies within ADCON (para 7): J-3Y.
- e." A generic IPLAN should be incorporated as snnex to OPLAN for flights subsequent to OFT-5 (para 7): J-3Y, J-3X.
- f. Additional training required in raceiving realtime data from JSC (pars 3a): J-3T.
 - q. Miditional training required on voice procedures and b5 luse (page 2b): J-3T.
- h. Crew members must be required to know material in IPLAN (para 8c): J-3T, J-3V, J-3lA through E.
 - i. Overview Shuttle aupport brisfing required (pera Sd): J-3T.
- j. In-house exercises of Shuttle support for CP, 780, SPARSC, and SCC crews necessary (para 9): J-3T.
- k. ADCOM should play in all NASA mission exercises (pars 9): J-3Y, J-3T.

- apploc orews should be sugmented for each flight through GPT-5 (mars 10): J-3Y.
- m. No onew augmentation required for operation Shuttle flights: subsequent to OFT-5 (pers 10): no action.
- n. Bevelopment of esparete crew checklists for Shuttle suppert not necessary at this time (pare 10): no action.
- o. Software modifications identified in Atoh R should be modified-prior to OFT-2 (para 11): J-3Y, J-3P, J-65.
- p. Sensor problems of exceeding tasking must be corrected (para 12): J-3s.
- q. Problem of non-processing of NAVEPASUR obs for OFT-1 must be corrected (pers 12): J-3K.
- r. *A complete analysis of COMBO and TIP programs of the SCC, the ASCC and the BCF should be completed and documented (pare 13): .fe35.
- s. SEES special support capability should be upgraded (para 14): J-17D.
- t. Change shout down circuit to ring down circuit (para 15a): J-3Y, J-6CT.
- u. Add the JSC ring down circuit to SST and SOT conscles (para 15b): J-3T, J-6CT.
 - v. Install separate monitor circuit (para 15c): J-3Y, J-6CT.
- w. Make TV monitors available to MCNC personnel during Shuttle operations (parall6): J-JK.
- x. No changes to MW procedures necessary for Shuttle operations (para 17): no action.
- y. Resolve the NASA-imposed radar restrictions prior to OFF-2 (para 18c and para 22e): J-32.

- g. Expedite the flow of data from JSC to the SCC (para 19): J-Yr.
 - as. J-3Y is primary OPR for OFT-2 (pers 2la): J-3Y.
- bb. J-3Y is responsible for all interface with MASA and PTD (para 21s): J-3Y.
- oc. J-32 is responsible for all interface with sensors, ASCC, SCF, DDMS, and ESMC (pers 21b): J-32.
- 64. J-5D will set up first meeting with JSC for OFT-2 (para 21e): J-5D.
- ee. Validate all support requirements (pars 22b): J-SD, J-3T, J-3E.
- ff. Include speeding data flow, improving come, and specific post-mission analysis in initial negotiations for OFT-2 support (para 22c): J-5D, J-3X, J-3X.

REQUERED SOFTWARE HODIFICATIONS

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ATTACUMENT B

S-316 LETTER ON SENSOR SUPPORT AND BADAR RESTRICTIONS'

HORTH AMERICAN AIR BEPENSE COMMAND



TATE J-18C

28 April 1981

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16 J-3YE

- A post-gauttle review meeting has revealed that there are several quantions regarding SPADATS sensor support of STS-1.
- a. Remove sporadically exceeded MO NCOMP tasking instructions. The following messages spoolfically requested that sensors do not exceed the levied tasking; MO NORAD/-1712 DTG 11/21453 Apr 81, MO NORAD/-135 DTG 08/13005 Apr 81, MO NORAD/-35 DTG 08/13005 Apr 81, MO NORAD Charling was 2H (three data points on all passes) for Ascension and Antigma; and 2D (three data points on all passes) for Otis, Beals, and Sglin.
- (1) 20MMS ammeded tasking on three out of four passes, twice by as much as 18 observations. The FBS-85 provided 21 cbs on a pass for which SCC requested only 12-15 obs.
 - (2) Otis exceeded tasking on five out of ten passes.
- (a) Twice Otis tracked the Shuttle as a UCT and obtained 30: cha both times.
- (b) Three of the times Otis tracked the Shuttle as a known ebject, tasking was exceeded by at least three observations.
 - (3) Reale exceeded tacking on four out of 11 passes
- (a) Scale tracked the Shuttle as a UCT three times and obtained 14, 17, and 17 obs, respectively.
- (b). On one track tagged as a known object, Beals obtained 18 observations.
- (4) Antique exceeded ENRAD tasking on three out of nine passes. This is not of major concern since Antique tasking is ultimately the responsibility of ETR.
- (5) N/J-33C will research the reason why the above assure exceeded NORAD tasking instructions.
- b. Unfamiliarity with a 20003 procedure which is used during menned space launches resulted in SCC confusion during lift-off. The FPS-85 has routinely restricted reder transmission from T-20 seconds through T-70 seconds. This is an FFS-85 sefaty precaution

against possible interference with the leunch vehicle telemetry during lifevors. This projective is not a checklint item now is it included in Johns Operache Instructions. To seconds of demnise does not degrade the FFS-SS syntam. Downtime must exceed two minutes to constitute redime.

- (i) The ASCC received approval from Missile Warning at 12/11539 Apr 31 for 90 seconds of downtime. HW initials are DF or DG.
- (2) ASCC informally coordinated this precedure on 10 April 81 ever the TTY with the mid shift BCC BBC and 3800 on duty.
- (3) H/3-32C will ensure 2000% manned launch procedures allow fiexibility for shuttle launches and do not involve unnecessary downtime.
 - c. PANE PANS tracked the Shuttle as a UCT.
- (1) Otis tracked the Shuttle as a UCT twice. On 104/ 10293 Otis Obtained 30 observations, all tagged as UCT 90192 and 90193: The 20th on wes tagged correctly as 12399.
- (2) Esale tracked the Shuttle as a UCT three times. In two sats of UCT observations the Ebuttle was correctly tagged once, This was the last ob of each set.
- (3) M/J-32C will research the reasons why the Shuttle was intermittently tracked as a UCT and why some UCT tracks had a correct object number tag.
- d. MAVSPASOR observations were not received at the SCC until they were retransmitted vie FLASH precedence upon SCC request.
- (1) the Shuttle was initially tracked as a UCT. EAVSPASUR did a corthilition and memually retarged the one with 12399 prior to transmission to ECD. The memual retay required a subsequent change to the checketh value. This was not done which resulted in a chaptage extro. Expessed into this problem continues.
- (2) W/J-285 will continue coordination with MAVSPASUR to essure this problem down not recur.
- 2. M/J-18C is preparing a package to MASA which will include the following:
- A. An SCC PASCHED in order that MASA can determine if MORAD sensor rediation may have affacted the Shuttle.
- b. Radiation analysis done by 2008/S (2008/S message DTG . 02/2225% Apr 81), SAI, and Colorado Springe General Electric on SPADATS radars for NASA consideration to detamine which sensors may be utilized during future shuttle missions.

e. A query regarding the possibility of scheduling tests to measure the effect, if any, of suspect MORAD sensors on a future shoutd filight.

3. Direct questions to Lt Minkle, Chidler extension 6277.

JOAN H. P. ZIMIE, ILE, DEAP Space Syn Interface Officer

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